

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Douglas M. Duncan *County Executive*

February 3, 2004

Dear Owner/Manager:

This month marks the twenty-second year since the expiration of rent controls in Montgomery County. The Voluntary Rent Guideline system in place over these years has helped both government and the real estate industry remain aware of inflationary pressures related to rent increases in this region.

The figures from the U.S. Department of Labor on which the Voluntary Rent Guidelines are based show the rent component of the Consumer Price Index for 2003 for the Washington Metropolitan area to be 4.5 percent. Based on that information, the Voluntary Rent Guideline for Montgomery County will be set at 4.5 percent.

Your cooperation in keeping rent increases moderate is appreciated. Please direct any questions or observations that you may have about the Guideline to the Landlord-Tenant Affairs Section, Division of Housing and Code Enforcement, Department of Housing and Community Affairs, at 240-777-3600.

Sincerely,

Douglas M. Duncan

County Executive

DMD:sc